



Redmond
WASHINGTON

**Connected Community
Enhanced Livability
Environmental Sustainability**

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS, every day, more than 110 Americans are killed by gun violence, alongside more than 230 who are shot and wounded, and on average there are more than 16,000 gun homicides every year; and
- WHEREAS, Americans are 26 times more likely to die by gun homicide than people in other high-income countries; and
- WHEREAS, Washington has 821 gun deaths every year, with a rate of 7.6 deaths per 100,000 people, and Washington has the 42nd highest rate of gun deaths in the US; and
- WHEREAS, gun homicides and assaults are concentrated in cities, with more than half of all firearm-related gun deaths in the nation occurring in 127 cities; and
- WHEREAS, cities across the nation, including Redmond, are working to end the violence with evidence-based solutions; and
- WHEREAS, protecting public safety in the community they serve is a mayor's highest responsibility; and
- WHEREAS, mayors and law enforcement officers know their community best, are the most familiar with local criminal activity and how to address it, and are best positioned to understand how to keep their residents safe; and
- WHEREAS, support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from people with dangerous histories; and
- WHEREAS, gun violence prevention is more important than ever as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to exacerbate gun violence after more than a year of increased gun sales, increased calls to suicide and domestic violence hotlines, and an increase in city gun violence; and
- WHEREAS, in January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton was tragically shot and killed at age 15, and on June 3, 2022, to honor Hadiya's 24th birthday, people across the United States will recognize National Gun Violence Awareness Day and wear orange in tribute to Hadiya and other victims of gun violence, and the loved ones of those victims; and
- WHEREAS, the idea was inspired by a group of Hadiya's friends, who asked their classmates to commemorate her life by wearing orange, and they chose this color because hunters wear orange to announce themselves to other hunters when out in the woods, and orange is a color that symbolizes the value of human life; and
- WHEREAS, anyone can join this campaign by pledging to wear orange on June 3, the first Friday in June in 2022, to help raise awareness about gun violence; and

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WHEREAS, by wearing orange on June 3, 2022, Americans will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives of gun violence victims and survivors; and

WHEREAS, we renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the wrong hands, and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our children safe;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ANGELA BIRNEY, Mayor of the City of Redmond, Washington, do hereby proclaim
June 3, 2022, as

NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

in Redmond to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence and to declare that we as a country must do more to reduce gun violence and support efforts to prevent its tragic effects. I encourage all citizens to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives



Angela Birney, Mayor

June 3, 2022

Date

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